



Before the THRONE The Devotional

Volume 3

The Prophetic Books

Ezekiel 46:9

“...When the people...come before the LORD... whoever enters by way of the north gate to worship shall go out by way of the south gate; and whoever enters by the way of the south gate shall go out by way of the north gate. He shall not return by way of the gate through which he came...” Ezekiel 46:9

Say what?

Here again we see a quirky little passage that leaves us wondering, “Just what exactly does this have to do with anything?” Is it just a random or completely arbitrary Divine whim? Or then again, is it simply a plan to alleviate traffic and congestion within the city? Nice try... human reasoning always falls short of the Divine mind.

Never interpret the Scriptures solely on the basis of your own understanding and experience. Some passages of Scripture invite immediate and extremely practical application, while others require study or contemplation before any light appears.

Could this regulation on temple worship be applicable to us in the following manner? Worship that becomes routine is in danger of no longer being worship! Is the grace spoken over the evening meal really a blessing when it is only memorized and regurgitated dutifully – with one eye upon the best piece of fried chicken?

Could a simple act of obedience keep my worship fresh? Why not go to church a different way than your normal routine. What about sitting in a different part of the sanctuary? Gasp! ... with different people?! Double gasp!! Raise your head and hands while saying the table grace rather than folding your hands and bowing your head! (1 Timothy 2:8). Maybe at grace everyone could give thanks – out loud – at the same time! (It won't confuse God – in fact, He may rather like it.) Next Sunday why not go to church – gasp! Dressed up! Or, heaven forbid, in casual attire. Shake things up! Get a fresh perspective. Worship with a full and overflowing heart.

Go ahead... it'll be good for you! And in the process you might even chase a few religious demons away while you're at it!

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